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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1918.

Mothers, Keep Your Babies' Hands Covered

And Train Them From the Beginning to Keep Their Fingers Out of Their Mouths.

The recent epidemic of influenza should have taught us one thing, and that is that one of the easiest paths for disease to enter the body is through the mouth.

Millions of mothers worry because "There is something wrong with the child's stomach."

Digestion is bad, sleep is irregular, the lips are cracked, unhealthy looking—there are signs of the dreaded colitis, which takes so many thousands of children to the grave.

The problem of mothers is hard and painful at best. Impure milk is a constant danger.

False diet, foolish feeding based on ignorance, AND EATING AT IRREGULAR HOURS menace the health of many children.

The mother that has lost one child or more lives in constant apprehension and is almost in despair when signs of illness show themselves.

We want today to impress upon all mothers ONE THING THAT THEY CAN DO FOR THEIR CHILDREN.

When baby gets sick and the doctor is called, one of the first questions that he asks is this:

"Does your baby put its fingers in its mouth a great deal?"

He then impresses upon the mother that she must, above all things, prevent her baby from putting dirty fingers into its mouth.

And this is the idea that we want to impress upon all mothers TODAY, and that without putting them to the expense of seeing the doctor.

Remember that children are sometimes poisoned by disease germs IN THEIR FOOD.

But FAR OFTENER THEY ARE POISONED BY GERMS STICKING TO THEIR FINGERS WHICH THEY PUT INTO THEIR MOUTHS.

It doesn't matter how careful you may be, your child is bound to creep on the floor, to fall down upon its hands on the sidewalk, to grasp railings, etc.

When a child's hands touch the sidewalk, or railings, or the floor, THEY ARE APT TO COME IN CONTACT WITH GERMS THAT PRODUCE DISEASE.

It is impossible to keep children shut in. It is impossible to keep them from the parks and the streets and from crawling about on the floor.

BUT IT IS POSSIBLE TO PROTECT THEM.

To the mothers of young children an able doctor said: "Keeping your child's hands washed frequently is a good thing—but it is no protection."

"Keep COTTON GLOVES ON THE CHILD'S HANDS when it is playing anywhere outside of its nursery—and, better still, keep them on also when it plays on the nursery floor."

"A child will not put cotton gloves into its mouth—it doesn't like the feeling."

There is very simple advice for mothers that worry about their children's health.

If your baby is in the teething stage, you know how the wise old mothers will tell you that you must EXPECT trouble at that time.

You are told that teething affects the stomach and causes sickness, bowel complaint, etc.

Teething DOES affect the child's DIGESTION. But it does not actually introduce into its system the germs that produce disease—such as the dreaded summer complaint.

Children are subject to disease especially when teething. BECAUSE WHEN TEETHING THEY ALWAYS HAVE THEIR FINGERS IN THEIR MOUTHS, and they are always introducing dangerous germs into their systems in that way.

Two pairs of cotton gloves for the baby would not cost very much—and we wish that the managers of big stores would put such gloves on sale as an act of public usefulness, and advertise them at the very lowest possible price.

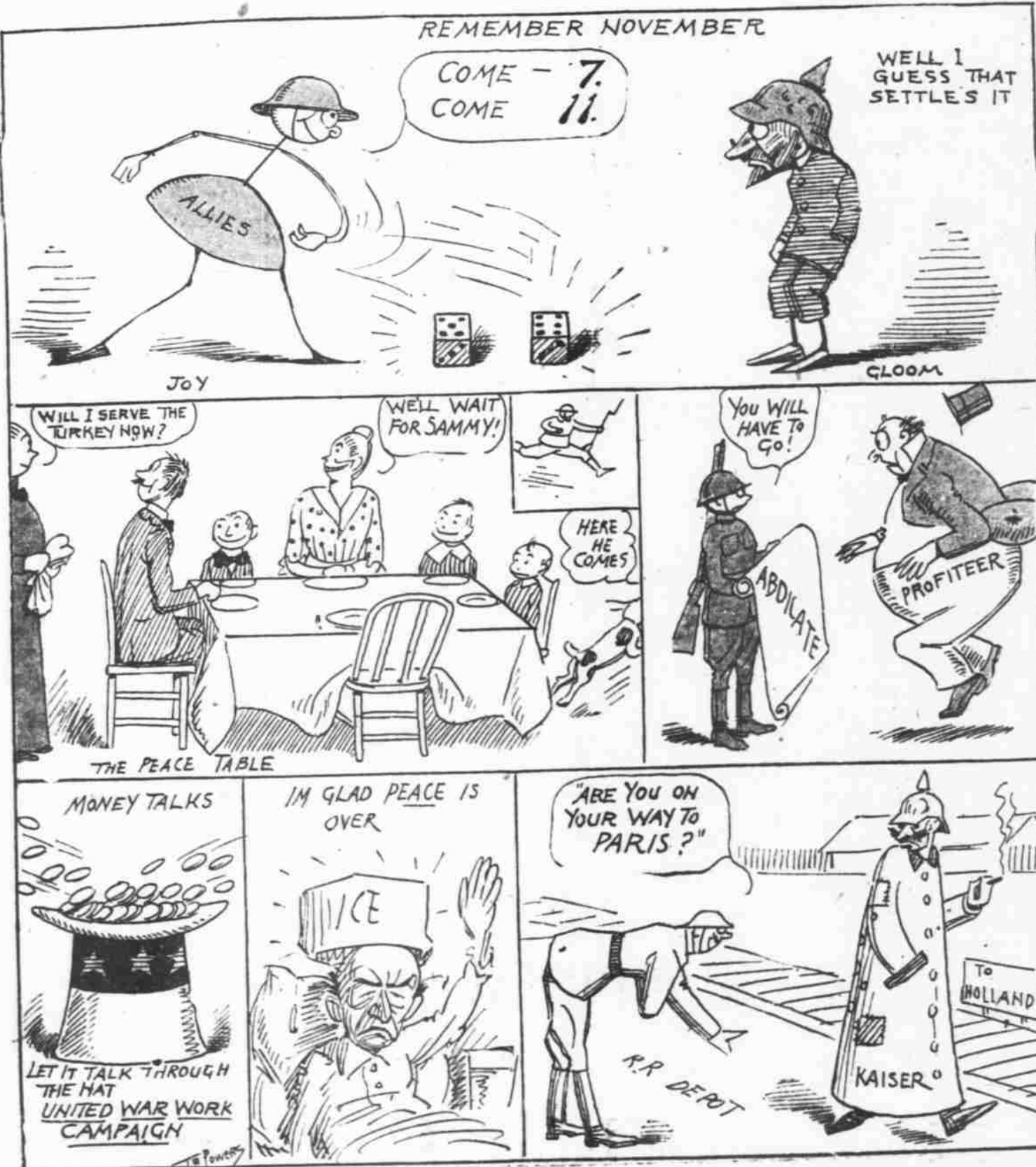
Mothers can do much also by making it a habit from the baby's first day to train it to keep its fingers out of its mouth.

A gentle touch of the hand each time that the little fingers are put toward the lips will gradually accustom the child to the notion that its hands and its mouth must be kept separate.

Meanwhile, we advise mothers of children under five years of age—and, better still, up to seven years of age—to try this experiment of keeping them gloved with cotton when they play in parks or on sidewalks, exposed to disease germs.

Oh, Joy! Oh, Gloom!

By T. E. POWERS



Beatrice Fairfax Writes of the Problems and Pitfalls of the War Workers Especially for Washington Women

"SHOULD a woman take the initiative in love?" a war worker has just asked of me.

"Or, if we admit that she can with propriety make advances to the man who attracts her, does she gain or lose by so doing?"

This is a puzzling question to many girls, particularly in these days when women no longer spend years in demure waiting for the breeze, to be rescued finally by some lordly man whose august notice they may happen to attract.

Men and women are side by side in the world nowadays. And since this is the case in work and in play and in life generally, girls wonder whether in matters of love alone they must remain passive and patiently wait for men to seek them out and woo them.

A young Washington woman to whom this is a special problem has written, in extreme anxiety, to ask my advice. She says:

A Girl's Courtship.

"About two years ago I met a young man and although I only saw him a few times, I fell in love with him. I asked him to write, which he did. Then later I visited Boston and he came to see me a few times. He also came to my home for a day or two. He was drafted later, going to Camp Dix. All this time we have been writing, and I sent him sweaters, socks, etc. At Christmas I wrote to his sister (whom I had never met) that I was going to send him a signet ring, which I did. He sent me a pendant in return. I visited Boston this month and went to see him two or three times. He is rather distant and has told me he is not interested in girls, but for all that I hope to win him. Now I intend to visit him, or rather Boston in a month or so, and I want your advice as to whether I should write him and tell him of my love. I have him in my mind and would do anything to win him, but there does not seem to be much hope at all. He is a little more than 18 years old, but I would care him at that age. We are both twenty, shall you say?"

And the advice is a postscript. If he cared for me, do you think he would let me do all the "wooing"? He is not honest and has a loving disposition when he wants to.

In the meantime, I am afraid there is no one answer, and I suspect that "Portland" knows this quite well herself.

TODAY'S TOPIC
SHALL WOMEN MAKE LOVE?

self. If the young soldier were an eager lover he would not, of course, allow this young woman to do all the courting. This she understands.

Her real problem is: How to convert him into the lover that she longs for him to be. Can she gain his still unwon love by continuing to seek him out, by making him gifts, by asking him the one fateful, all-determining question? Or does the surer method consist in withdrawal, timidity and silence?

I suppose we must all agree that it's a question of tactics. It's entirely self-respecting, and upright for a girl to ask a man to come to see her, to write him friendly letters, even to say to him frankly, "I love you. Will you marry me?"

Shall Women Propose? But does it work? Is a reluctant lover won by this means?

I am inclined to believe that he is not, as a rule.

A man likes to think of himself as chooser and pursuer. He delights in love as a game, with plenty of obstacles, which it

pleases him to overcome. While women are flattered by open manifestations of love, a man, on the contrary, is flattered by believing that the woman he loves is difficult to please, that it's a triumph to persuade her ultimately to smile upon him. So that open and avowed preference on a woman's part often quite fails to arouse any response in him, but rather leads him to distrust her real value.

All this is unreasonable, of course, and old-fashioned, and the result of inherited instincts and customs which men have got to outgrow. They're outgrown and out of date. But the difficulty is that they're not outgrown yet, and that the woman who is in love must still reckon with them.

If a girl finds herself profoundly in love with a man who, like the soldier in this letter, is "distant" and makes no sign of interest in her, I should say that she isn't likely to gain his love by pursuing him further, but that she will more surely achieve her object by making some concession to his masculine notion that love is a game, and that he himself is the leader in it.

It is true, of course, that the love-game has been looked at in

quite another way. Many people have believed, with the great English playwright, Bernard Shaw, that, as a matter of fact, it is always woman who takes the lead in love, but that by a clever instinctive camouflage she so conceals this fact from her prey that he believes himself to be the hunter and the captor.

Woman the Arbiter. According to this view, woman is an extremely powerful creature. It is she who regulates the world of love and courtship and marriage. If a man makes love to her, it is because she herself has first chosen him, arranged the scene and given him his cue.

Now, this extreme view, which reduces men to the rank of helpless puppets, rather than lords of creation, isn't likely, perhaps, to be widely popular among men themselves; but wouldn't a wise woman admit that it held some truth? And doesn't every woman, wise or foolish, know that she exercises more power over men than they themselves are aware of?

So it may be that it isn't necessary for a woman in the grip of love either to remain unnaturally passive or to follow up her chosen one with gifts and offers of marriage. It may be that there is a subtler method of courtship which will bring the man and woman closer together without any realization on the man's part that each happy stage of his own courtship wasn't entirely of his contriving.

I do not mean of course to condone duplicity or intrigue or to suggest that any form of deceit is legitimate, even to attain the supreme rewards of love.

Being charming to the man you like isn't deceit, and entering into a relation of good comradeship with him surely can't be an unfair advantage. But it will give him a chance to know you better, to realize the beauty of your face and the soundness of your mind, and to see you as you are, and not as a mere shadowy figure of his imagination.

Instead of being smothered and pleased by her gifts of love, I am afraid that "Portland's" soldier, who doubtless has no fear of bullets and bayonets, has shrunk away from her pursuit in truly masculine alarm and confusion.

So I think she will have to try another course with him.

Government Clerks Need Not Become Alarmed

By BILL PRICE.

There is no occasion for panicky fears on the part of Government employees that they will be losing their positions in large numbers. The reassuring statement of the Civil Service Commission should be sufficient to allay nervousness and worry.

With the war virtually over, there is no doubt that the number of clerks now employed will be materially reduced by slow processes, but the policy of the commission and of Governmental establishments will be to cease bringing eligibles here from the States and to fill vacancies arising in some establishments from employees being dropped in others. That is, there will be going on all the time a process of absorption which, it is believed, will care for the bulk of new workers.

The salaries offered were the inducements that brought a great majority of workers here in the war days, but there were other thousands of young women who patriotically came to Washington to serve the Government, earnestly believing that they could best do their part here. A large portion of these will return to their homes—are already returning, leaving vacancies to be filled from among those who want to stay.

Thousands of you who may be worrying about your positions will become valuable and valued citizens of this beautiful city. You will save money and buy homes. You will send back to the States for your beloved ones to share with you the contentment and pleasures of residence in Washington. With the readjustment of conditions, there will come a great real estate movement in the District, with hundreds of new homes going up for you to purchase and live in.

There will be benefits to this stoppage of the inflow of new clerks and the departure of their homes of many who no longer wish to remain. The awful congestion in housing will be slowly relieved, and living conditions generally will become more desirable.

By no means all of the activities of the Government, started because of the war, will cease. Some of them will become permanent. Others will be authorized by Congress as peace measures. Every executive department of the Government will be immeasurably larger on a peace basis than it was two years ago. The country grows and the needs of the Government grow with it. That all means an increasing number of civil service employees.

In all lines of local business endeavor there will continue to be a demand for help, with good openings for competent, reliable men and women who will stick and make themselves satisfied with their salaries and surroundings. Hereafter, of all times, the merchant or banker will appreciate loyalty and worthy endeavor in his behalf. He faces many changes in the future, and the employees who stand by him in the coming transformations ought to and will deserve his gratitude when he has surmounted the difficulties and weathered the storms.

GIVE TODAY—A SOLDIER'S APPEAL

LOUIS HOWARD, private soldier assigned to the general staff of the War Department, last night contributed at Keith's for the United War Fund drive, and sends this stirring appeal in verse, for all to help "Buddy" across the seas.

I GAVE TODAY—DID YOU?

Is it your voice that I hear 'cross the sea, Buddy?

Give all you can, for the need will be great!

Aid with your dollars the boys who fought well for you,

Victory's sons, who stand idle and wait,

Eager to turn to the trail that winds overseas.

Tired and spent, when the warring is done,

Or, wounded sorely, and scarred with the battle brand,

Dreaming of Home and reward they have won

Are we to plead for the love of America?

Yearn for the comforts her treasure has brought?

Do we ask vainly the things we are craving for?

Is it too great for the battle we've fought?"

Deathless the love in American hearts, Buddy.

Your care, our duty, while yet you shall roam;

Our utmost effort is yours for the summoning.

Until the last son is safely at home.

?

HEARD AND SEEN

Unanimously elected twenty-five

successive years as president of a

large civic organization is the

record of EVAN H. TUCKER, who

will preside over the Northeast

Washington Citizens' Association

for another year. There could be

no greater tribute to a man's worth

than the continuous conferring of

such an honor. Mr. Tucker has

long been foremost in all notable

work for the upbuilding of the Dis-

trict.

HARRY CHESLER—Seeing that

Washington people are packed into

street cars like sardines, in a tin

can at 2 cents a head, don't you

think it would be a good idea to

charge them 6 cents and pack them

in oil?

His friends say that CHARLIE

HEME, an "unfortunate" "crazy"

boy, and, having seen a good

deal of his money, and that he

was in a state that he is

subject to permanent insanity.

Washington mothers, sisters and

cousinhood who have received many

kind letters from children in France

and that there is a long list of

names of children who are in the

French army is scarce and high.

Thanks from Per Diem Workers.

JOSEPH H. HURLEY, president

of the City Employees' Association,

writes this much appreciated letter:

"The executive committee of this

organization has tendered The Times

and yourself a vote of thanks for

your article, 'Why Not Sick Leave

for Per Diem Workers?'

"The editorial exactly fits the con-

ditions prevailing among 2,000 em-

ployees of the District, who receive

no consideration whatever in the

way of leave, sick or annual. Our

organization appreciates your help.

We have clipped your article and

will use it when the time comes.

The editorial referred to called

for justice and fair treatment for

per diem workers, whether in the

service of the United States or of

foreign governments. There are thou-

sands of them, good and true men

and women, and they should be

never put in a state that is so

subject to permanent insanity.

An officer attached to the chief

of staff of the army sends many

kind letters from France and that

there is a long list of names of

children who are in the French

army is scarce and high.